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**Concurrent Technologies Corporation, U.S. Marine Corps, and
Defense Logistics Agency Collaborate to Develop the
Marine Corps Equipment Readiness Information Tool (MERIT)**

JOHNSTOWN, PA, May 30, 2003— Congressman John P. Murtha (D-Johnstown) and Daniel R. DeVos, President and CEO of Concurrent Technologies Corporation (*CTC*) today announced that *CTC*, in partnership with the U.S. Marine Corps, has developed a unique visualization approach to displaying logistics equipment readiness information. *CTC*, in its role as an applied research and development organization, investigated various methodologies to meet Marine Corps requirements for quickly identifying readiness problems with a goal of finding the root cause within 10 seconds as compared to hours and sometimes days. *CTC*'s review identified a unique visual data analysis software application developed by the Hive Group of San Mateo, California. This software allows decision makers to analyze and respond to vast quantities of information in a single interface with remarkable efficiency and speed.

CTC integrated this software with Marine Corps legacy systems data to extract meaningful readiness information that according to the Marine Corps Director of Readiness and Analysis, Michael Williamson, places "sunshine on readiness problems." This capability, known as the Marine Corps Equipment Readiness Information Tool (MERIT), is supported by the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) Supply Chain Management Initiative and provides commanders with the ability to quickly identify and analyze readiness issues across the Marine Corps, including detailed supply and maintenance information for more than 185 weapons systems. Mr. Williamson added, "MERIT is the product of a great team effort with the DLA and *CTC* that has produced a brilliant product with tremendous value for the Marine Corps."

Congressman Murtha commented, "The MERIT system is an exciting new tool that is providing a great advancement in our ability to maintain the readiness of the Marine Corps. As a former Marine Combat Intelligence Officer, I am keenly aware of the need for current and accurate information in the field. This system provides a real-time visual display of everything we need to carry out our mission from tanks and bullets to boots and spare parts." Mr. DeVos stated, "I am proud of *CTC*'s timely contribution; applying technology to solve real-time problems for the warfighter is one of our strongest areas of concentration."

CTC's expert team of engineers developed the Phase 1 Functional Prototype Application within a period of eight weeks. The Hive Group worked closely with the team to ensure rapid development of the necessary software applications. MERIT has proved to be effective and superior to traditional processes with the prototype system now used in all theaters of Marine Corps operations.

CTC is an independent, nonprofit, applied research and development professional services organization that provides management and technology-based solutions to a wide array of clients representing state and federal government as well as the private sector. Established in 1988, *CTC* operates from 35 locations throughout the United States with a staff of over 1,100 employees.

For more information on MERIT, please contact Mr. Raymond D. Nelson, Project Manager, *CTC* at 1-800-282-4392 or nelsonrd@logcom.usmc.mil.

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